

Pet Application Fact Sheet

Government Employee Housing

Pets are an important part of life for many individuals and families, particularly in regional and remote locations.

Government Employee Housing (GEH) acknowledge this and have set out this process to ensure you fully understand and agree to the terms, conditions, and decisions.

A Pet is a domesticated animal or an animal that is dependent on a person for the provision of food or shelter. This does not include working dogs or animals prescribed by the regulation not to be a pet. Different rules apply for working dogs, which are defined as assistance dogs, guide dogs or hearing dogs (as defined under the Guide, Hearing and Assistance Dogs Act 2009), corrective services dogs, or police dogs. A tenant may keep a working dog at the premises without GEH approval.

A tenant must not keep a pet without agency endorsement and written approval from the GEH to keep a pet at the rental property. It is a significant breach if an animal, other than a working dog, is kept at the premises without the lessor's approval.

On completion of the below conditions and responsibilities, complete the pet application form via the [RTA – Request for approval to keep a pet in a rental property \(Form 21\) | Residential Tenancies Authority \(rta.qld.gov.au\)](#).

Conditions

1. General

1. Consultation between the employee and the employee's agency is required prior to a pet application being submitted to GEH for consideration.

Responsibilities

2. Tenant must

1. Read and understand the RTA renting with pet's fact sheet and other relevant pet information – [Renting with pets fact sheet | Residential Tenancies Authority \(rta.qld.gov.au\)](#)
2. Comply with all Council regulations and bylaws around keeping a pet – [Search the local government directory | State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning](#)
3. Understand your responsibilities as a pet owner - [Laws for pet owners in Queensland | Parents and families | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)
4. Seek approval from your body corporate managers to keep a pet on the premise (contact agent or GEH directly for details)
5. Acknowledge receipt and acceptance of relevant agency house rules and requirements, set out for shared/multi/Interim/Co-tenancies and standard tenancies, including special conditions of the STA regarding pets
6. Ensure copies of Council registrations can be provided if required
7. Acknowledge that complaints from neighbour may result in a breach notification and a rescindment of your approval
8. Acknowledge that pet damage is not considered fair wear and tear - [Fair wear and tear | Residential Tenancies Authority \(rta.qld.gov.au\)](#)

9. Ensure you regularly maintain the yard including picking up disposing of your pet's faeces, from your property responsibly.
10. Submit for approval special condition document for alterations to the property e.g., temporary fencing or animal enclosure.

3. Agency must

Ensure that there are minimal risks regarding suitability. The agency must consider prior to endorsing:

- If the premises are appropriate for the pet;
- health and safety concerns;
- access and available space;
- enclosures or dividing fence;
- cleanliness requirements;
- harm to co-tenants;
- neighbourly conflicts;
- a suitable area where the pet will have protection from the inclement weather.

Process

Tenant discusses their request to keep a pet at their home with their Leasing Agency, having regard to the conditions and responsibilities detailed in this factsheet



If the Leasing Agency is agreeable of keeping a pet, the tenant completes and signs a [Request for approval to keep a pet in a rental property \(RTA Form 21\)](#), with the Leasing Agency co-signing as their endorsement.



Either the Leasing Agency or Tenant forwards the completed and signed Form 21 to GEH (gehtenancy@epw.qld.gov.au) for consideration.

GEH will provide a written decision within 14-days of receiving the request. Approval is automatically granted if a response is not provided within this time.

Note: *The application process will formally commence once receipt of all relevant documents has been provided. After 14-days, the application will be acknowledged as confirmation that you have read, understood, and agreed to the above conditions, and have read the relevant links.*